

# DOINGWHATWORKS



## Slideshow

FULL DETAILS AND TRANSCRIPT

### Portfolio of Reading Interventions

Warfield Elementary School, Florida • April 2007

**Topic:** Teaching Literacy in English to K-5 English Learners

**Practice:** Provide Reading Interventions

#### Highlights

- Small class sizes and an abundance of materials contribute to Warfield students' reading success
- Additional teacher-directed small-group work and independent practice at reading centers support the skill development reviewed in the various interventions
- Listening centers, readers' theatre, and discussion guides are used across grade levels
- Students' oral language development is supported by speakers of the students' native language and computer-assisted programs
- School tutoring and summer programs provide additional practice time for students' mastery of skills

## About the Site

**Warfield Elementary School (K-4)**  
**Indiantown, FL**

### Demographics

75% Hispanic, 5% White, 17% Black

96% Free or reduced-price lunch

67% Limited English Proficient

**Warfield Elementary School uses an inclusive, English immersion approach for their English learners, the majority of whom are of Guatemalan descent and speak either Spanish or one of several Guatemalan Indian dialects, which lack a written language. Distinctive features of the school include:**

- A continuous improvement model for instruction; data disaggregation and analysis, facilitated by a reading coach and writing/math coach, drive all instruction
- Instructional calendars for all content areas and grade levels that show standards being taught, instructional activities, and assessments to monitor student progress
- A schoolwide reading program based on an external model, along with a core textbook program
- Data available to teachers on fast turnaround, either in profiles produced by the reading coach or through reports from district and state databases
- Whole-group instruction based on the instructional calendars, combined with flexible small-group instruction based on students' needs
- Interventions provided within the classroom, including several that are technology-based
- Instructional strategies that are research-based; for example, a vocabulary program that is based on Isabel Beck's research
- All teachers with an ESOL endorsement on their teaching certificates
- Paraprofessionals who speak the children's native languages to ease the transition into school and support teachers in working with students

## Full Transcript

### Intro Slide: Portfolio of Reading Interventions, Warfield Elementary

See an overview of the interventions that Warfield employs to provide additional instruction to ensure that English learners stay on track.

### Slide #1: Small Classes & Great Resources

At Warfield Elementary School, a combination of small class size and a wealth of materials for providing additional reading teaching ensure that all students—including English learners—will become proficient readers.

### Slide #2: Waterford Early Reading Intervention Program

Warfield uses an early reading intervention program that is useful in the early primary grades as well as for students in intermediate grades who enter school with low reading skills.

### Slide #3: Phonics Practice

Their intervention program provides specific skill practice in phonemic awareness and phonics. In most cases, students practice specific skills in sequence until they master it. Teachers can also individualize the program to meet specific student needs.

### Slide #4: Quick Reads

Warfield teachers also use quick reads to build reading fluency skills. Students begin by reading to themselves and marking unfamiliar words with sticky notes. Then, the teacher defines the words and models fluent reading. Finally, students practice reading fluently on their own and answer questions about the material.

### Slide #5: Computer-Based Instruction

These students are using quick reads with their teacher, but there is also a computer-assisted version of the program. Working at a computer, students can click to see meanings of unfamiliar words, follow highlighted phrases as fluent reading is modeled, and record themselves to get feedback on their own fluency.

### Slide #6: Reading Lab

Warfield has a reading lab used by third and fourth grade students with reading difficulties, as well as students in the school's "Exceptional Student Education Program."

#### Slide #7: Small Groups & Centers

In addition to these intervention programs, a lot of additional reading instruction is provided in small teacher-directed groups or at centers in the classrooms. For example, classrooms have listening centers, where students hear models of reading with appropriate pacing and expression and they can follow along.

#### Slide #8: Listening Centers

Listening centers are enjoyed by students of all ages. They not only contribute to English learners' reading fluency, but also help with listening comprehension in students' English language development.

#### Slide #9: Readers' Theatre

Readers' theatre is an activity done in small groups that builds reading fluency skills. Students have the opportunity to read parts in a play, practicing using appropriate expression and pace.

#### Slide #10: Discussion Guides

These students are working on reading comprehension skills. They have read about leopards and are using a discussion guide that requires them to record an idea from the text, their response to it, and comments made by others in the group.

#### Slide #11: English Language Development

Additional teaching at Warfield isn't just about reading skills. There is also plenty of support for English language development. For example, paraprofessionals who speak the students' native Spanish or Mayan dialect are available to teachers to help new English learners adjust to the school, clarify meaning, and work with individuals or small groups.

#### Slide #12: Extra Support

Warfield provides plenty of opportunities for more practice and reinforcement. Here you see the school's foster grandparents program in action. There is also an after-school tutoring program at the community center, and 5 out of 6 students attend the summer school program thanks to special funding from a grant. With so much extra support, it is easy to see why English learners at Warfield are so successful in reading!